

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 227311
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY:EUR/CAN:JHROUSE,JR.CLJ

APPROVED BY:EUR/CAN:JHROUSE,JR

S/S-O:JCASWELL

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P 212153Z SEP 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 227311

STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SINGAPORE 4104 ACTION SECSTATE DATED SEP 20:

QTE:S E C R E T SINGAPORE 4104

EXDIS

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, SN

SUBJ: LEE KUAN YEW VISIT

1. MY CANADIAN COLLEAGUE, MR. ROBERT THOMSON, HAS GIVEN ME COPY OF LETTER SENT BY PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW TO PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU WHICH PROVIDES SOME INSIGHT AS TO FRAME OF MIND IN WHICH LEE IS APPROACHING HIS VISIT TO CANADA AND THE U.S. I PASS IT ALONG BELOW AS BEING OF POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN PREPARATIONS FOR LEE'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON, WITH REQUEST THAT IT BE USED ON VERY CLOSE-HOLD BASIS AND KNOWLEDGE

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OF ITS EXISTENCE NOT BE DISCLOSED TO CANADIANS.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: MY DEAR PIERRE

YOUR HIGH COMMISSIONER, MR. ROBERT THOMSON, HAS TOLD ME THAT 3 AND 4 OCTOBER ARE CONVENIENT TO YOU FOR MY VISIT TO OTTAWA. I AM SORRY I COULD NOT GIVE LONGER NOTICE OF MY VISIT. MY SPECIAL THANKS.

SINCE LONDON, THE SITUATION LOOKS A LITTLE GREYIER.
THE WORLD ECONOMY IS NOT FIRMLY ON THE MEND. AMERICAN RECOVERY
IS STICKY. THE GERMANS ARE ADDING A LITTLE STEAM TO THEIRS,
AND SO ARE THE JAPANESE. I HAVE A FEARFUL SUSPICION THAT
HELMUT SCHMIDT'S ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT, THAT THE PRESENT
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS ARE FUNDAMENTAL AND STRUCTURAL, AND CANNOT
BE SOLVED BY ORTHODOX REFLATIONARY POLICIES.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE ARAB-ISRAELI STALEMATE LOOKS
GRIM. IT IS WORSE THAN BEFORE BEGIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON,
AND VANCE'S VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST. AND SAUDI WARNINGS
OF USING THE OIL WEAPON IS NOT DOING MUCH GOOD FOR CONFIDENCE
IN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS.

I HAVE FOLLOWED THE NEW LANGUAGE LEGISLATION IN QUEBEC
WITH SADNESS. I USED TO SEE THE GRASS GREENER IN OTHER
PASTURES. I STILL DO, AS FAR AS CANADA IS CONCERNED. HOWEVER
INTRACTABLE THE PROBLEM OF RECONCILING FRENCH AND ENGLISH-
SPEAKING CANADIANS, IT IS STILL MANAGEABLE AND SOLVEABLE A
PROBLEM COMPARED TO THE HORRORS OF ACUTE CONFLICTS OF RACE,
LANGUAGE AND RELIGION IN POST-COLONIAL SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST
ASIA.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU I HAVE ASKED YOUR HIGH
COMMISSIONER TO INFORM YOUR OFFICE NOT TO IMPOSE TOO MUCH
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OF YOUR TIME. THIS VISIT IS IN AID OF MY EDUCATION, NOT
YOURS.

WARMEST WISHES. YOURS EVER, SD: HARRY
END QUOTE.

3. THOMSON HAS ALSO INFORMED ME THAT LEE WILL NOT DEPART
OTTAWA MORNING OF OCTOBER 4 AND ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON BY
MID-AFTERNOON. THOMSON HIMSELF HAS BEEN ASKED TO RETURN
TO OTTAWA FOR THE LEE VISIT IF HE CONSIDERS IT DESIRABLE.
HOLDRIDGE UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE227311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/CAN:JHROUSE,JR.CLJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770344-0994
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770937/aaaabexp.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8bf57240-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1183271
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEE KUAN YEW VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, SN, (YEW KUAN LEE)
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8bf57240-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009